

20. (Original) An apparatus of claim 1, including buffer means at each port for separate storage of binary format and ASCII format data.

21. (Original) An apparatus of claim 1, including means for processing and storing fast meter binary data from IED devices.

22. (Original) An apparatus of claim 1, wherein the data processing means includes means for parsing received data in accordance with selected rules.

23. (Original) An apparatus of claim 22, wherein the parsing rules are pre-established.

24. (Original) An apparatus of claim 22, wherein the parsing rules are defined by an operator.

Remarks

A short review of the status of the reissue patent application is appropriate. The reissue application was filed with an amended claim 1 (with respect to the original claim 1) and original claims 2-24. The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C § 251 as being broadened in a reissue application filed outside of the two year statutory period. Specifically, the Examiner noted that the “means for configuring communication parameters associated with each port position...” in the original patent application was amended to a “means within the [communications processor] apparatus for configuring communication parameters, including communication parameters for at least several of said port positions...”.

The Examiner also pointed out that the Amendment received on 04/09/2004, improperly amended claim 1 because all of the changes to claim 1 were not reflected with respect to the original claim 1.

Further, Claim 1 was rejected as being based on a defective reissue of Declaration under 35 U.S.C. § 251 as not including a statement of error, a statement that the declaration was filed without deceptive intent and appropriate signatures.

Office Action paragraph 1

The Examiner's statement is noted and no further response is necessary.

Office Action paragraph 2

Claim 1 was further amended to address the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C § 251, and in light of a telephonic interview on January 29, 2004 between the Applicant's previous attorney and the Examiner. Specifically, amended claim 1 now states "means within the communications processor apparatus for selectively configuring communication parameters associated with each port position [for proper data communication with the electronic device connected thereto,] to enable proper data communication between the communications processor apparatus and a plurality of electronic devices connected to the plurality of port positions;"

Office Action paragraph 3

Claim 1 was further amended to reflect ALL changes to the original claim 1.

Office Action paragraph 4

As the Office Action concluded a defective declaration, applicant encloses the following:

- (i) Reissue Application Declaration by the Assignee that includes a reason why the original patent is inoperative or invalid, a statement of error and a statement that the declaration was filed without deceptive intent,
- (ii) Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b), and
- (iii) Reissue Application: Consent of Assignee

With this amendment, Applicant believes this application to be in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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